



Testimony from Susan B. Linker

Board Chair CT Votes for Animals and Chief Executive Officer, Our Companions Animal Rescue

Testimony in Opposition of SB1148 AN ACT AUTHORIZING CERTAIN KILLING AND HUNTING OF BLACK BEAR AND PROHIBITING BIRD FEEDERS AND OTHER UNINTENTIONAL AND INTENTIONAL FEEDING OF POTENTIALLY DANGEROUS ANIMALS.

Testimony in Opposition of SB1149 AN ACT ELIMINATING ALL RESTRICTIONS FOR SUNDAY HUNTING ON PUBLIC AND PRIVATE PROPERTY.

Dear Honorable Members of the Environment Committee,

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to testify.

As a member of two animal welfare organizations in CT, I am deeply troubled that the legislature is once again considering legalizing a hunt of CT's native black bears. Studies show that hunting does not reduce human-bear conflicts. Rather these conflicts decline when attractants are removed.

Humane minded residents, which are most people, want humane resolutions to conflicts with wildlife. There are well proven solutions that focus on community based attractant removal and public education. Please support these proven strategies and oppose the bear hunt in SB 1148.

Also please oppose SB 1149. I speak for myself and other nature lovers who enjoy being in woods and value the one day of the week that I can hike and explore our natural environment without the violence of hunting.